

Application Serial No. 10/604,196

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-16 are pending. Claims 1 and 14 have been amended and claims 2, 5, and 17-19 have been canceled by way of the present amendment. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-4 and 6-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,683,340) in view of Cherian et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,841,479); claims 14-16 were rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al. in view of Cherian et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,852,208); claims 5 and 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims; and claims 18-19 were allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

First, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Vinh for the early indication of allowable subject matter in the form of claims 5 and 17-19. In particular, claims 5 and 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and claims 18 and 19, which correspond to claims 5 and 17 being rewritten independent form, were allowed. To that end, claims 5 and 17 have been rewritten in independent form by amending claims 1 and 14, respectively, and claims 18 and 19 have been canceled. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3-4, and 6-16 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or requires clarification, the Examiner may contact the undersigned so that this Application may continue to be expeditiously advanced. In the event the

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Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned is available at the telephone number noted below.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to Deposit Account No. 09-0456.

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Respectfully submitted,



Myron Keith Wyche

Registered Patent Agent, No. 47,341

Customer No. 30678

Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP

1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20036-3425

Telephone: 202-331-7111